(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (d). The World Wide Fund for Nature - India informs that they organised a nature conservation walk in Delhi in November, 1996 with the objective of raising awareness on some of Delhi's environmental problems. Approximately 900 school children participated.

(e) and (f). Various awareness raising programmes, including nature conservation walks, are conducted by non-governmental organisations and other institutions in the country. These cover major cities as well. Such programmes are encouraged and given support by way of financial assistance from time to time.

Horticulture/Fishery Schemes

2547. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of horticulture, fruit bearing trees plantation and fisheries schemes implemented in the country, during the last three years, State-wise; and

(b) the funds provided by the Government for these schemes, during the said period, separately State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

Pension to Freedom Fighters

2548. SHRI ANIL KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of 'Baal Sena', a wing of the Azad Hind Fauz;

(b) if so, whether the Government are contemplating to accord freedom fighters' status to the said 'Baal Senanies';

(c) whether at least letter of appreciation, recognition certificate and some allowance or pension should be given to them;

(d) whether no facility has been provided to any of the Baal Senanies so far; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). At present no such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

(d) and (e). Samman pension and other facilities will be granted to only those freedom fighters whose claims are covered by the eligibility criteria laid down under the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980.

[English]

National Co-operative Consumer Federation of India

2549. SHRI DINSHA PATEL : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the basic objectives and functions of the National Co-operative Consumer Federation of India (NCCF);

(b) whether the budgetary support to NCCF has been withdrawn by the Government;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether the Government are considering to restore the budgetary support to NCCF?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) It has been reported by the National Cooperative Consumer Federation (NCCF) that the basic objectives and functions of the NCCF are to provide supply support to Consumer Cooperatives besides rendering technical and promotional guidance for improving and increasing their operational and managerial efficiency.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Displaced Indians from Burma

2550. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had made a provision to issue licence for employment and livelihood and to provide Government jobs in Class III and Class IV categories to the displaced Indian repatriated from Burma;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the said provision is still existing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) Instructions were issued to the State Governments in 1965 that apart from the grant of business loans to repatriates from Burma, priority may also be given to them in the matter of grant of licences, permits etc. where these are required for any occupation or trade. These instructions are still in operation. Age and fee concessions were earlier admissible to repatriates from